KING BLACK
SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN
LAND
MARVEL
4
PETER DAVID
GREG LAND
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AFTER THE FIRST SECRET WARS, PETER PARKER RETURNED HOME TO NEW YORK CITY WITH A BRAND-NEW COSTUME HE THOUGHT HAD BEEN CRAFTED BY ALIEN TECHNOLOGY. IT COULD RESPOND TO HIS EVERY THOUGHT, SHAPE-SHIFT TO MIMIC HIS CIVILIAN CLOTHING AND EVEN GENERATE A SEEMINGLY ENDLESS SUPPLY OF HIS UNIQUE WEBBING!

NOW IN HIS SLEEK ALL-BLACK COSTUME, PETER PARKER BALANCES HIS PERSONAL LIFE, HIS PHOTOGRAPHY JOB FOR *THE DAILY BUGLE* AND HIS SUPER-HEROICS AS HE SWINGS THROUGH THE CITY AS THE AMAZING, FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!

THOUGH, UNBEKNOWNST TO PETER, HIS ALIEN COSTUME MAY BE MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE...

# SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN

## THE SWORD AND THE SPIRIT
### PART FOUR

AFTER **MR. E**—A SHADOWY BEING CREATED BY KNULL AS AN EARLY PROTOTYPE OF SYMBIOTES—BONDED WITH ALISTAIR SMYTHE, HE ATTACKED THE AVENGER **BLACK KNIGHT** AND TOOK HIS ONE-OF-A-KIND WEAPON, **THE EBONY BLADE**.

SPIDER-MAN—WITH THE HELP OF KANG THE CONQUEROR, ROCKET RACOON AND CAPTAIN MARVEL—IS ON MR. E'S TAIL TO THE COSMIC HUB KNOWN AS KNOWHERE!

BUT SPIDER-MAN ISN'T THE ONLY ONE AFTER MR. E, AS ULIK THE TROLL CRASHED DOWN TO TAKE THE EBONY BLADE FOR HIMSELF!

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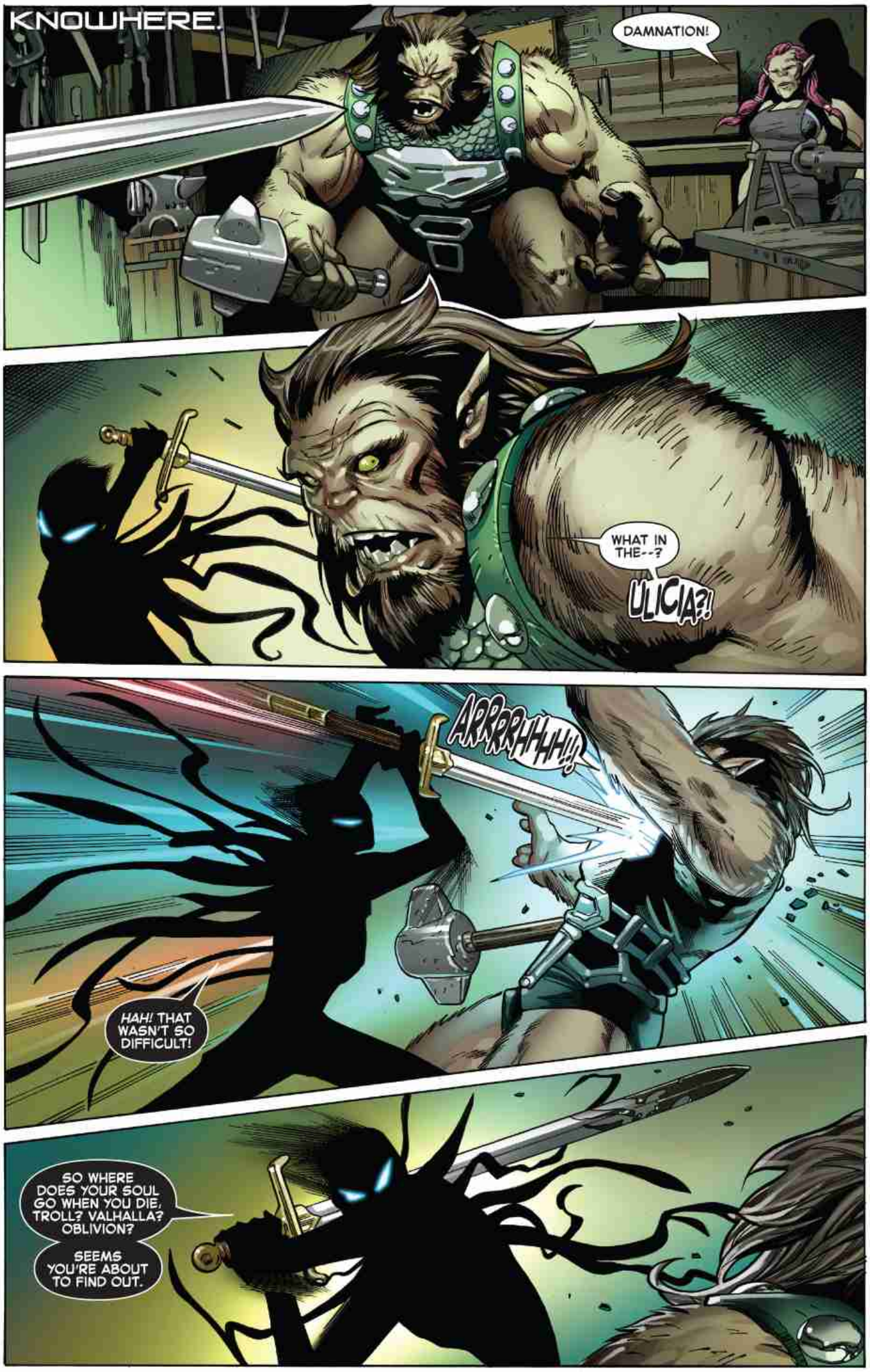

KNOWHERE.
DAMNATION!
WHAT IN THE--?
ULICIA?!
ARRRRHHH!!
HAH! THAT WASN'T SO DIFFICULT!
SO WHERE DOES YOUR SOUL GO WHEN YOU DIE, TROLL? VALHALLA? OBLIVION?
SEEMS YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT.

KLAAAANG
NOBODY KILLS MY BROTHER EXCEPT ME.
MAKE ME.
OUT OF MY WAY, TROLL!
AS YOU WISH.
I CAME HERE TO HAVE YOU DESTROY THIS BLADE FOR ME!
BUT NO, YOU HAD TO MAKE THIS DIFFICULT. YOU STUPID--
TWAAZAAAAK

IDIOT.
YOU OKAY, ULICIA?
I'M FINE, COSMO. THANKS FOR STEPPING IN...
I'M HEAD OF SECURITY FOR REASON.
WHAT WAS HAPPENINK HERE?
WELL, THAT SHADOWY CREATURE WANTED ME TO DESTROY HIS SWORD, AND THEN MY BROTHER CAME CRASHING IN...
WHAT BROTHER?
OHHHH PEANUTS.
WELL, THIS HASN'T GONE THE WAY I WANTED IT T--
GIVE IT HERE!!!
YES, I'LL GET RIGHT ON THAT.

KRAAASH
FOOL.
WHO'S THE GREATER FOOL? THE FOOL OR THE FOOL WHO FOLLOWS HIM?
STAR WARS QUOTE. YOU'RE A SPACE GUY, SO I FIGURED IT WAS APPROPRIATE.
WAAAAM

HOW IN THE BLAZES DID YOU GET HERE?!
HITCHED A RIDE WITH A TALKING RACCOON.
YOU'LL LOVE HIM.
AND YOU WILL LOVE BEING CUT TO PIECES!
BETTING I WON'T.
HERE. BETTER GIVE ME THAT BEFORE YOU HURT YOURSELF WITH IT.
THWIP

LET... GO!
SAYS THE SHADOW GUY ABOUT THE SWORD HE STOLE? YEAH, I DON'T THINK SO.
ZWAAAK
OH, NOW WHAT?!
HUH. OKAY, THAT'S WEIRD.
FINE! LET'S KICK IT UP A NOTCH!
ZWAAAK
ZWAAAK
WHOA! ROCKET! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE SHOOTING, DUDE!
KEEP FIRING, IDIOT. SEE IF I CARE.

LET'S TEST THE ENERGY ABSORPTION PROWESS OF THIS BLA--
AH!!!
EXCELLENT!
ZWAAAK
ZWAKAMM ZWAKAMM
UH-OH.
IDIOT.
GOOD TIMING.
YES, WELL, THAT COMES WITH BEING A TIME-TRAVELER.
BAKOW
AW, C'MON!!!
I'M LEARNING, SPIDER-MAN. ADAPTING. WHAT WORKED FOR YOU ONCE WILL NOT CONTINUE TO DO SO.

OOOOFF!
MY ATTACKS, ON THE OTHER HAND, CONTINUE TO FUNCTION JUST FINE.
RELAX, BOYS. CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS GOT THIS!
WHAT-- WHAT ARE YOU--
--DOING?!
FILLING YOU WITH ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT, WHICH IS SOLIDIFYING YOU!
SPIDEY! ROCKET! TAKE HIM!

HE'S TOOK!!!
WAAM

NOW WE'RE TALKIN'!
TIME TO PUT AN END TO THIS BATTLE.
OUT OF THE WAY, SPIDER-MAN. ONE SIDE, CAPTAIN.
NO!!!
ALL YOURS.
DO YOU SERIOUSLY THINK YOU CAN THWART THE WILL OF *THE DARK LORD?* YOUR ATTEMPTS ARE AS NOTHING TO HIM!
I DO NOT ATTEMPT. I SUCCEED.

I'LL...I'LL KILL YOU FOR THIS! I SWEAR I'LL--
--KILLLL YOOOOOUUU
SMYTHE!
UNNHHH...
WELL, HE'S STILL ALIVE, FOR WHAT THAT'S WORTH.
WHERE DID YOU SEND MR. E?
I MADE OTHER ARRANGEMENTS IN ANTICIPATION OF NEEDING SOMEWHERE SECURE TO DEPOSIT HIM.

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE GALAXY...
LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT!!!
...THE COLLECTOR'S SHOWROOM.
OH, I DON'T THINK SO. I'VE NO IDEA WHERE YOU'VE COME FROM...
...BUT THE COLLECTOR DOESN'T HABITUALLY RELEASE HIS PRIZES JUST BECAUSE THEY ASK HIM TO.
"NOW, SPIDER-MAN... LET US TURN OUR ATTENTION TO OTHER MATTERS."
OTHER MATTERS? KANG, IF I FIND OUT THAT CREATURE HAS BEEN HARMED...
I'M TRUSTING YOU.
DON'T MAKE ME REGRET IT.
WAIT... WHERE'S THE SWORD?

GODS, IT'S GOING TO TAKE ME A WEEK TO CLEAN UP THIS MESS.
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST PACK UP. NOW THAT ULIK KNOWS I'M HERE, HE MAY COME BACK TO--
HAH!!!
THERE'S A DOOR *RIGHT THERE! RIGHT BLOODY THERE!*
WOULD IT *KILL* YOU TO USE IT? *REALLY?!*
WHY DON'T I JUST KILL *YOU* AND SPLIT THE DIFFERENCE?!
I STOPPED THAT SHADOW THING FROM KILLING YOU!
WAS THAT A MISTAKE?

YES!!!
TROLL SIBLINGS ALWAYS SLAY EACH OTHER! THAT WAY THE STRONGEST SURVIVES!
YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD ESCAPE YOUR FATE!
I DIDN'T WANT TO KILL YOU!
WELL, THAT WAS YOUR MISTAKE!
ZWOOP
WHAT THE--?!
TAKE HIM.
HE'S TOOK!
ZWAKOWWW
ARRRRHHGGGHH!

YOU OKAY?
Again... doors... What is with you people...?
CAN'T A TROLL KILL HIS SISTER IN PEACE?
'FRAID NOT, BOZO!
KRAK
NOT AS LONG AS THE HEROES--
KRAK
KRAK
--ARE HERE TO STOP YOU!

YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?
UH-OH.
SHWAZAAAK
WHOA!
WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?!
DID...DID YOU JUST DO...?
UH, DO YOU TALK?
YES.
OF COURSE HE DOES.
'CAUSE I HITCHED A RIDE HERE WITH A TALKING RACCOON AND AN AVENGERS VILLAIN, SO NATURALLY...
SORRY, CANNOT STAY-- KIND OF BUSY.
OH, DON'T LET ME STOP YOU.

THIS PLACE IS INSANE!
AS INSANE AS TROLLS HAVING A TRADITION OF KILLING THEIR SIBLINGS?
YOU CANNOT HOPE TO UNDERSTAND THE THOUGHT PROCESS OF TROLLS!
YOU HAVE A THOUGHT PROCESS? COLOR ME SURPRISED!
TAKE HIM, GUYS!!!

UNNH!!!
STOP! STOP HURTING HIM!!!
Didn't... hurt...just getting... second wind...
YOU'RE AN IDIOT!!!
I FLED ALL THE WAY TO THE MIDDLE OF KNOWHERE TO AVOID YOU, AND YOU STILL CAN'T LEAVE ME ALONE!
DIDN'T... KNOW YOU WERE HERE... CAME FOR THE SWORD...
WHY?
WAAAAM
YEAH, I WAS KIND OF WONDERING THAT MYSELF.

I SENT HIM.
HOLY...
I SENT HIM HERE...
...TO GET THE SWORD.
DO... DO I WANNA KNOW WHY?

TO DESTROY THE BEING WHO WANTS TO ANNIHILATE THE UNIVERSE.
THE BEING CALLED *KNULL*.

WH-WHERE AM I...?
HUH?
WH--WHAT'S HAPPENING...?
I'M TAKINK YOU HOME.
WHAT THE--?!
I'VE EXTRACTED YOUR HOME LOCATION FROM YOUR MIND. OH, AND ALL THESE PEOPLE WHO WERE POSSESSED BY THE SHADOW CREATURE? THEY ALL WANT TO BEAT YOU TO DEATH.
I'M STOPPINK THEM.
FOR NOW.
OH... OKAY... UH...
NICE DOGGY?
NEXT ISSUE: IT AIN'T OVER JUST YET! THERE ARE STILL TWISTS AND TURNS ABOUND FOR SPIDEY AND THE CREW! SEE YOU IN 30 FOR THE FINALE!

# CHECKLIST

- **KING IN BLACK: GWENOM VS. CARNAGE #3**
  CAN GWEN SAVE MARY JANE? OR WILL CARNAGE WIN?
- **KING IN BLACK: THUNDERBOLTS #3**
  THE THUNDERBOLTS ARE DOING *WHAT* WITH *WHO*? THIS CAN'T END WELL FOR ANYONE!
- **KING IN BLACK: CAPTAIN AMERICA #1**
  CAPTAIN AMERICA, FALCON AND THE WINTER SOLDIER HAVE BOOTS ON THE GROUND AGAINST AN ARMY OF SYMBIOTES!
- **KING IN BLACK: WICCAN AND HULKLING #1**
  A HONEYMOON UNLIKE ANY OTHER—THE NEWLYWEDS FACE THE WRATH OF KNULL!

- **FANTASTIC FOUR #30**
  A FAMILY DIVIDED CANNOT STAND!

- **KING IN BLACK: SPIDER-MAN #1**
  PETER PARKER FINDS INSPIRATION IN A YOUNG HERO: REPTIL!
- **S.W.O.R.D. #4**
  THE AGENTS OF S.W.O.R.D. ENGAGE PROTOCOL V!

- **KING IN BLACK: SCREAM #1**
  DEFEATING HYBRID WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING! ENTER: DEMAGOBLIN!

- **SAVAGE AVENGERS #19**
  CONAN IS TASKED WITH FREEING THE KNULLIFIED X-MEN—HE'S GOT HIS WORK CUT OUT FOR HIM!

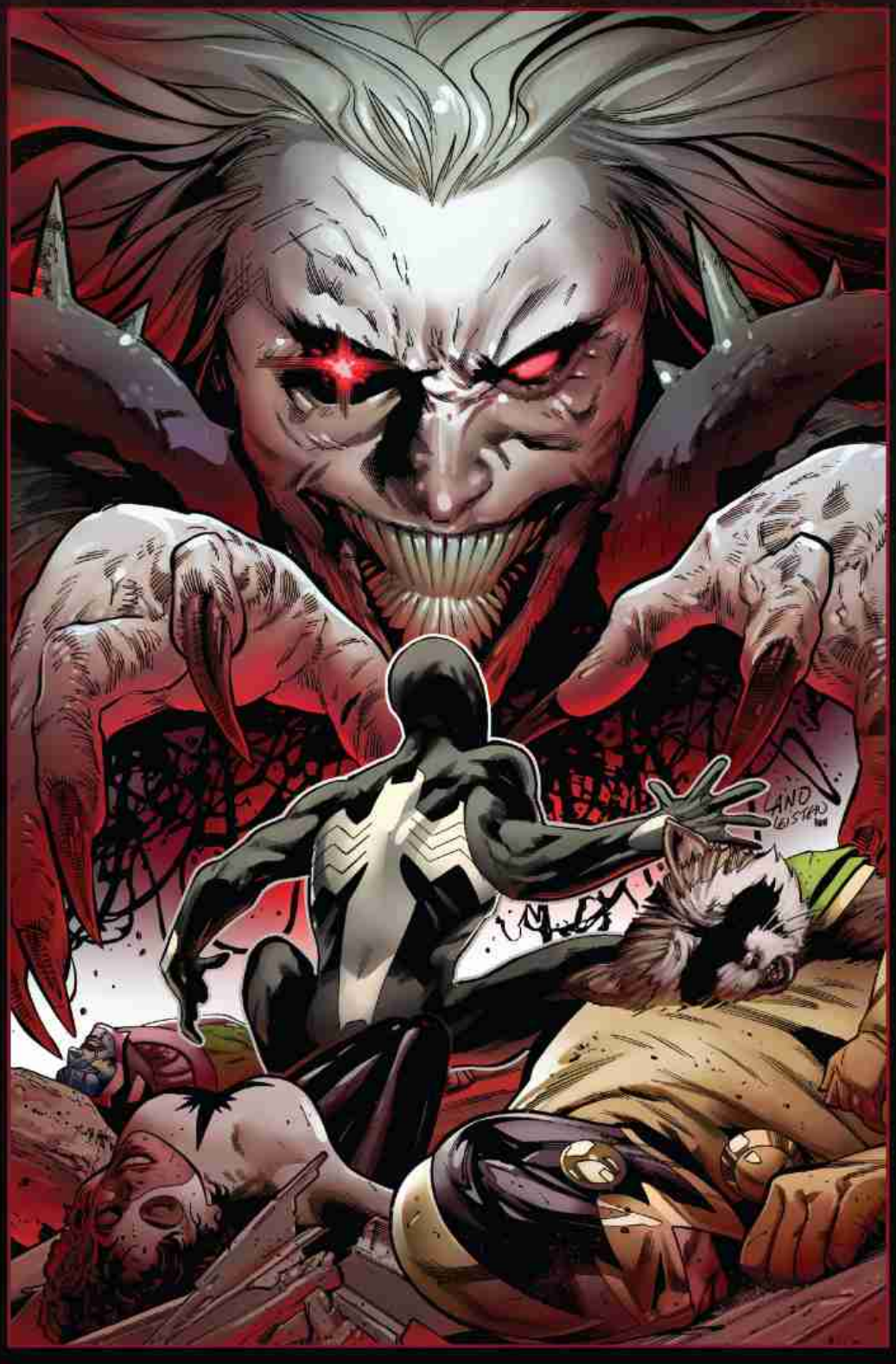
- **DETA RAY BILL #1**
  WITHOUT STORMBREAKER, BETA RAY BILL MUST BATTLE THE KNULLIFIED FIN FANG FOOM!
- **KING IN BLACK: GHOST RIDER #1**
  THE KING OF HELL FACES THE KING IN BLACK!
- **KING IN BLACK: RETURN OF THE VALKYRIES #4**
  THE VALKYRIES ARE UNITED AGAINST KNULL—WITH EVERY SOUL IN EXISTENCE AT STAKE!
- **SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN: KING IN BLACK # 5**
  MR. E'S FINAL PLAY TO FREE THE KING IN BLACK CRASHES DOWN ON SYMBIOTE SPIDEY!

THE CONCLUSION IS COMING!

- **KING IN BLACK: NAMOR #5**
  THE WAVES OF THE PAST AND THE PRESENT COLLIDE!
- **VENOM #34**
  WHAT LIES BEYOND FOR EDDIE BROCK?
- **KING IN BLACK: PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES #3**
  CLOAK AND DAGGER FACE THE DARKNESS WHILE TOXIN RETURNS!
- **KING IN BLACK #5** (PICTURED)
  WHAT'S A GOD TO A NONBELIEVER?

KING IN BLACK

# NEXT:
## SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN: KING IN BLACK #5



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